

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp:

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
17 APR 25 PM 3:39

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within 30 days of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building.

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The original *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), AND
☒ A copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): Restore or Retreat (in partnership with state government entities)

Travel date(s): April 12- 13, 2017

Name of accompanying family member (if any): N/A

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING DID NOT INCREASE DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate	\$421	\$121	\$120 (\$60/day)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate				
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): See attached agenda.

4/21/17
(Date)

Neal McMillin
(Printed name of traveler)

Neal McMillin
(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

4/25/17
(Date)

[Signature]
(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

(Revised 1/3/11)

Form RE-2

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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

April 5, 2017

Neal McMillin
Office of Senator Roger Wicker
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. McMillin:

This responds to your recent correspondence concerning an invitation you received to travel to a site visit to the Mississippi River Delta, in New Orleans and Galliano, Louisiana, on April 12-13, 2017, sponsored by Restore or Retreat.¹ Restore or Retreat certified to the Select Committee on Ethics (the Committee) that it will pay the *necessary expenses*² related to the travel and that it is neither a lobbyist, nor lobbying firm, nor an agent of a foreign principal, and it is not otherwise acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government. Restore or Retreat has also certified that it does not retain or employ a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, and that no registered lobbyist will accompany you at *any point throughout your trip*.³

Based on information and materials available to the Committee, and assuming the **actual** travel and travel-related expenses conform to the information and materials you provided, it appears that the proposed payment or reimbursement of necessary expenses for this trip **may be accepted** under relevant Senate Rules and the Committee's *Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel*, so long as at the time of the payment or reimbursement, Restore or Retreat is neither a registered lobbyist nor lobbying firm under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, nor an agent of a foreign principal under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (and is not otherwise acting as a representative or agent of a foreign government), and provided the travel and all required documents are disclosed to the Secretary of the Senate in accordance with the provisions of Senate Rules 34 and 35.

¹ The trip is cosponsored by the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (LCPRA) and the Greater Lafourche Port Commission (GLPC). Paragraph 1(c)(16) of Senate Rule 35 (the Gifts Rule) allows Members, officers, and employees of the Senate to accept anything paid for by a federal, state, or local government. Because LCPRA and GLPC are government entities, they did not complete a Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, and all representations about the trip were made by Restore or Retreat.

² The term "necessary expenses" has a specific definition. See *Select Committee on Ethics' Regulations and Guidelines for Privately-Sponsored Travel – Glossary of Terms* at 8.

³ The term "any point throughout your trip" has a specific definition. See *id.* at 2.

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Under Senate Rule 35, Senate staff must receive advance authorization signed by the Member or officer under whose direct supervision the individual works in order to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary expenses related to fact-finding travel. Further, such authorization and expenses must be disclosed to the Secretary of the Senate by filing the completed *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* and the *Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses* (Form RE-1 and Form RE-2), along with a copy of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and all relevant attachments (e.g., the private sponsor's invitation and itinerary) **within 30 days of the conclusion of Privately-Sponsored Travel.**

Finally, Senate Rule 34 requires a reporting individual,⁴ on his or her Financial Disclosure Report, to make an annual disclosure of the receipt of payments or reimbursements under Senate Rule 35 from a private sponsor for officially-related travel expenses where, in the aggregate, travel expenses exceed \$390 from that sponsor during a calendar year. However, if a Member, officer, or employee properly reports the receipt of necessary expenses for such travel to the Secretary of the Senate within 30 days of the travel, as discussed above, the travel expenses need not be disclosed a second time on their Financial Disclosure Report.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Committee.

Sincerely,



Deborah Sue Mayer
Chief Counsel and Staff Director

Enclosure: Travel Checklist

⁴ A reporting individual is someone whose salary equals or exceeds 120% of the basic rate of pay for GS-15 (\$124,406 for CY 2017) or is a political fund designee and is required to file Financial Disclosure Reports.

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Coastal Louisiana Congressional Staff Trip April 12-13 • New Orleans, LA and Galliano, LA

Purpose: To educate Congressional offices on Louisiana's land loss crisis and the Coastal Master Plan to address it; discuss Gulf-wide collaboration and federal agency involvement in the effort; and demonstrate national economic importance of restoration, specifically by highlighting Port Fourchon operations, development and involvement in restoration activities.

Sponsoring Organizations: Restore or Retreat, the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (State Government), Greater Lafourche Port Commission (Local Government)

Participating Organizations: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Restore the Mississippi River Delta Coalition

Attire: Casual. For boat tours, please wear appropriate shoes and bring sun protection.

Wednesday

8:35-10:24 am: **American flight #5559 DCA to MSY**
Contact for arrivals: Simone Maloz, Executive Director of Restore or Retreat, will meet the delegation at the baggage claim area with a sign reading, "Welcome Congressional Delegation" and will proceed to the bus.
Simone cell: 985-688-3290

11:00-11:30 am: **Lunch on Chartered Bus to Davis Pond**
Participants will pre-select lunch from Cochon Butcher. Program: Welcome, introductions and presentation by Bren Haase, Chief of Planning and Research for CPRA and Steve Cochran, Director of Restore the Mississippi River Delta Campaign: Framing an Issue of National Importance

11:30 am-2:30 pm: **Davis Pond Tour**
Program: Briefing at diversion structure and viewing of outfall area followed by airboat tour by Simone Maloz. Includes observations of beneficial freshwater into the area and benefits of proactive conservation management, as well as discussion on possible legislation needed for future adaptive management and appropriations.

The Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion was originally authorized in the Flood Control Act of 1928, most recently amended in the Water Resources Development Act of 1996. It is located in St. Charles Parish on the west bank of the Mississippi River, approximately 15 miles upstream of New Orleans. The project was designed to divert fresh water, with its accompanying nutrients and sediments, from the Mississippi River into rapidly eroding the Barataria Basin – reducing saltwater intrusion and establishing favorable salinity conditions in the area, thus combating land loss. We will tour the diversion structure along the river, and then, via airboat, tour the outfall channels into Lake Cataouatche and Lake Salvador.

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- 2:30 pm:** **Depart for International House**
- 3:30 pm:** **Check in at International House**
Location: 221 Camp Street New Orleans, LA 70130
- 5:00-5:45 pm:** **Briefing**
Program: Historical overview of Mississippi River Delta degradation and restoration and flight path preview by David Muth with the Restore the Mississippi Delta Restoration Coalition, followed by discussion on the effects the history has on conservation management today, potential future restoration opportunities, and possible future legislative requests.
- 5:45 pm:** **Depart for dinner (short walk) 6:00-8:00 pm:**
- Dinner at Dickie Brennan's Tableau**
Program: Remarks from restaurateur Dickie Brennan and local chef Georgie Brower on the importance of coastal restoration to the tourism industry. Remarks and Briefing on Louisiana's Coastal Master Plan from Johnny Bradberry, Governor's Executive Assistant for Coastal Activities, and CPRA Staff
Location: 616 St. Peter Street New Orleans, LA 70116

RON International House

Thursday

- 7:30-8:00 am:** **Breakfast (grab and go option)**
Location: International House
- 8:00-8:30 am:** **Depart Hotel for Lakefront airport**
Program: Presentation by John Lopez, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation Coastal Sustainability Program Director, on what we have learned from existing diversions
- 8:30-10:30 am:** **Coastal Flyover to Galliano**
Program: Each plane will contain a guide who will narrate the flyover and highlight both the problem and projects underway to address it. Details below on flyover details; discussion will cover observations to eroding landscape and ramifications to the local environment and economy, as well as local, state, and federal efforts planned to restore the area and associated dialogue on how to implement projects, including and especially permitting.

After taking off from the Lakefront Airport along Lake Pontchartrain, the flyover will take passengers through the Barataria Basin, over the proposed Mid Barataria Sediment Diversion site, and then west over the Morganza to the Gulf levee

system in Terrebonne Parish. Participants will also see projects constructed with Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act funding.

After crossing the eroding marshes of eastern Terrebonne, the passengers will see a stunning aerial view of the growing deltas of the Atchafalaya River and Wax Lake Outlet. Headed back east, the route would then include a flyover of the barrier islands and constructed Caminada Headland project.

10:30-11:45 am:

Transportation to Port Fourchon

Program: Windshield tour to view Larose to Golden Meadow Hurricane Protection system, the degraded marshes outside the levee system, and the elevated LA-1 highway project narrated by Simone Maloz, Executive Director of Restore or Retreat and Joni Tuck, External Relations Manager of Greater Lafourche Port Commission. Includes dialogue on concerns related to implementation of projects, including mitigation and permitting processes, and direct impact restoration of area will have on local, state, and national economy.

12:00-1:00 pm:

Lunch Briefing at Port Fourchon EOC

Program: Presentation from Chett Chiasson, Executive Director Port Fourchon

Port Fourchon plays a strategic role in furnishing the country with about 18% of its entire oil supply. While the Greater Lafourche Port Commission actively pursues its purpose of stimulating commercial development, it accepts as part of its mission the responsibility of acknowledging the environmental value of the setting in which Port Fourchon is located. The Port Commission works diligently to protect and restore the coastal landscape and habitats the surround it.

1:00-2:00 pm:

Boat Tour of Port Fourchon

Program: Waterside tour of Port Fourchon led by Chett Chiasson, Executive Director of Port Fourchon. Discussions includes legislation and approval needed by federal entities for port growth, as well as explanation of synergies between energy and environment.

Waterside tour of Port facilities will include an up close look at current development, large scale offshore services facilities, as well as the first LNG vessel fueling station in the US. Participants will see the Port's mitigation area, maritime forest ridge in the distance, as well as the West Belle Pass project and Caminada Headlands on our way out to the jetties. While in that reach, Chett will also talk about planned port expansion, and how deepening their channel will yield up to 35 million cubic yards of material to be used largely for restoration works across the

region over and above the Port's planned development and associated mitigation.

2:00-3:00 pm:

Caminada Beach ATV Tour

Program: Participants will ride ATVs to view the 7 miles of restored beach and dune habitat narrated by Brad Miller, Project Manager for CPRA. Remarks from Tanner Johnson, Director of Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

The Caminada Headland Beach and Dune Restoration Project is located south and east of Port Fourchon in Lafourche Parish which represents the largest investment to date by the State of Louisiana in a single beach or barrier island restoration project. The headland is a 14-mile-long undeveloped beach that stretches from West Belle Pass on the west to Caminada Pass on the east, protecting Port Fourchon, providing critical beach and dune habitat for nesting shorebirds, and accommodating culturally significant recreational activities in the form of fishing, crabbing, and beachcombing. This project has received federal funding through the Coastal Impact Assistance Program and the Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act. It has also received funding through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, which was created by Congress in 1984.

3:00 pm:

Depart for airport

6:30 pm:

American flight #4500 departs from MSY to DCA

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The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

- Private Sponsor Certification - Page 1 of 4

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**

I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

– OR –

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

– OR –

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

Restore or Retreat is financing the trip and will coordinate logistics, execute the itinerary and prepare materials. The State government and local port are organizing events in their locations.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

See attachment 2

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

No history of sponsoring Congressional trips

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Restore or Retreat is a 501(c)3 non profit that works daily to advocate for the large-scale, sustainable restoration of the Barataria and Terrebonne Basins of the MS River Delta. Our work includes educational briefings, field trips, and stakeholder/community meetings/outreach on specific projects and Master Plan

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate. <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	\$200-\$700 (depending upon origin location)	\$156 (inc. tax)	\$120 (\$60/day)	

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

The entire agenda was planned specifically with regard to Congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

These are particularly good locations to observe Louisiana's land loss crisis, as well as future restoration opportunities.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

International House, 221 Camp Street, New Orleans, 70130

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

Convenient location and cost.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Lodging and meals are under per diem.

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Commercial flights (economy class); chartered minibus; airboats; small aircraft

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (You must include the completed signature block below for each travel sponsor:

Signature of Travel Sponsor:



Name and Title: Simone Maloz, Executive Director

Name of Organization: Restore or Retreat

Address: 322 Audubon Drive, P.O. Box 2048-NSU, Thibodaux, LA 70130

Telephone Number: 985-448-4485

Fax Number: 985-448-4486

E-mail Address: simone.maloz@nicholls.edu

Form RE-1